

The Intelligencer.

Office: Nos. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

A Well Deserved Appointment.

The President yesterday sent in the case of ex-Gov. Fairpoint for the collection of Internal Revenue in the second revenue district of this State. This appointment was a fitting recognition on the part of the Executive of the important public services of Gov. Fairpoint to the country. Few men have done as much for the public and asked for as little in return as the old Governor. He began his political career away back in the days when allegiance to the despotic pro slavery ideas of the Virginia Democracy was the only passport to political preferment. The son of a slave holder himself, he grew up to a knowledge of the evil tendencies of the institution, and became thoroughly imbued with the anti-slavery extension ideas of Henry Clay and the great Whig leaders of the generation ago. The Governor entered the lists against the Democratic shibboleth on that question, and almost alone in the mountain counties gave battle to their champions on the stump. Holding such views he naturally became a Republican and a firm and devoted supporter of the government in the great crisis of 1861, and to him as much as to any other man belongs the credit for the scheme of the "restored government of Virginia." Under that scheme he was chosen provisional Governor, and assumed and executed the functions of that office at a time when Union people almost looked upon it as a treasonable usurpation against the Virginia government at Richmond.

This was the sort of ordeal through which such men as Governor Fairpoint passed in the trying days of 1861, and it is for such conspicuous public service as he has since rendered, as well as to his loyalty to his high personal character, that President Garfield has so fittingly conferred the appointment upon the old Republican veteran at Fairmont.

General Grant's Letter.

General Grant has written a letter in regard to the Conkling-Robertson imbroglio at Washington, which is made public in our dispatches this morning. It was a mistake on the part of the recipient of this letter to make it public, just as it was a serious mistake on the part of General Grant to write it. One of General Grant's well known characteristics is fidelity to his friendships—a good quality in any man—but nevertheless one that more than once has caused him to commit serious errors where the interests of the public service were concerned.

The close relation between the ex-President and Mr. Conkling is notorious. There is scarcely anything that General Grant would not do to oblige him. Whether else among Conkling's friends may forget or deem him the can be sure that Grant never will. Had the latter succeeded in his third term ambition the rule of blemish in the person of Mr. Conkling would have been complete and absolute. Happily for the country he did not succeed. But true to his friend, although defeated himself, he throws his name and influence into the scale in favor of rescuing Conkling's influence at Washington. This step is a great mistake on the part of General Grant, and if he lives a year or two he will be bound to see it in that light. It is really gratifying, if not insulting to the President to write such a letter, just as it was the third term ambition in New York save the three men worthy of recognition by the Administration.

General Grant esteems personal fidelity in politics to be a great virtue, but he does not apply his own standard to General Grant. He expresses the hope that he will desert the nomination of the man who did as much, if not more, than any other man at Conkling to defeat the third term and make his own nomination possible. Would General Grant have deserted Judge Robertson under similar circumstances? We will do him the justice of saying that he is the last man who would have done such a thing. Why then did he expect the President to withdraw the nomination of so good a man as Judge Robertson, feeling that he, himself, had a habit of standing by his opponents both good and bad.

General Grant lays great stress—really excessive stress—on what the President owes to New York for her vote. This is only an indirect way of reminding the President that he is a great debtor to General Grant and Senator Conkling. It is saying in effect that it had not been for himself and Conkling the President would never have reached the White House. This reminder is in very bad taste. To do public act, ostensibly for the public good, and then make a private and personal appropriation of it, is certainly in very bad taste. It recalls the personality that General Grant has always infused into politics. It is a remark calculated to draw out very severe criticism.

But even on General Grant's own ground, that of indebtedness for the vote of New York to Senator Conkling and himself, does not the President owe anything to the independent Republicans of that State—those 20,000 men who scratched Conkling—without whose vote he could not have carried New York? If the argument proves an obligation on the one side it also proves an obligation on the other side. And, inasmuch as the President set out to do justice to both sides, and began by filling the leading positions with friends of Mr. Conkling, does not the argument of obligation need to be argued in full? Is it a dispatch marked "separate," and was duplicated to Blaine. It is as follows:

My Dear Senator:—I see by the latest dispatches received here from the Capitol of our country that the dead-lock in organizing the Senate is not yet broken, and that nothing has been done by the President to allay the bitterness which must be engendered by his most recent appointments. When the first batch of appointments for New York was sent in I was delighted. I believed that the President had determined to recognize the Republican party and not a faction, but his nomination of the next day convinced me that the first act was but a part of a deep laid scheme by somebody to punish the prominent leaders of the party for being open enemies to me. I cannot believe that General Garfield is the author of this policy. I give him more credit for being too big a man to descend to such means for the punishment of the men who gave him their hearty support in his election, than to resort to such a policy. I give him the same support now, for the office of having had a former preference for some one else for the office which he now holds. But Garfield is the President, and is responsible for all the acts of the administration. Conkling and the 15 or 20 chosen Senators from the great State of New York, and that, against all the opposition of the administration created by the same party that elected them. This should give them all the stronger claim to be considered in the matter of appointment in their State. When it comes to filling the most influential office in the State without consulting those Senators it becomes a great grievance. When it selects the most offensive to be found it becomes an insult, and ought to be resented to the same extent as if the President will see this and correct his mistake himself and restore harmony to the party. He owes this to himself and to those without whom he could not have been elected. Nobody believes that he could have carried the State of New York without the active support of his present Senators. Their passive support would not have answered. Without the State of New York General Garfield would not be President. His reward Robertson is not only offensive to the New York Senators, but it is offensive to the New York Republicans. The change of Baden and Cramer, the two appointments in which I felt a strong personal interest, was very distasteful to me. The first, because of my personal relations with him, and the second, because his office would support him until he finishes some work he is engaged upon, and which he could do without interfering with his public duties. The second, because it was at the expense of removing the son of my old Secretary of State, who, no man ever had his superior, certainly never for moral worth, in the Department. It is true Mr. Fish resigned, but he did this from a sense of honor, supposing it to be the duty of the representatives abroad to give a man administration an opportunity of saying whether they were wanted or not.

Very Truly Yours,
U. S. GRANT.

GEN. GRANT

EXPRESSES SOME VIEWS AND MAKES SOME STATEMENTS

Germany to the Transactions Which He Settled in the New York Senators Stopping Down and Out, but Not Necessarily Consistent With the Real Facts in the Case.

New York, May 19.—The following letter from ex-President Grant to Senator Jones, of Nevada, is published here:

CITY OF MEXICO, April 24.

My Dear Senator:—I see by the latest dispatches received here from the Capitol of our country that the dead-lock in organizing the Senate is not yet broken, and that nothing has been done by the President to allay the bitterness which must be engendered by his most recent appointments. When the first batch of appointments for New York was sent in I was delighted. I believed that the President had determined to recognize the Republican party and not a faction, but his nomination of the next day convinced me that the first act was but a part of a deep laid scheme by somebody to punish the prominent leaders of the party for being open enemies to me. I cannot believe that General Garfield is the author of this policy. I give him more credit for being too big a man to descend to such means for the punishment of the men who gave him their hearty support in his election, than to resort to such a policy. I give him the same support now, for the office of having had a former preference for some one else for the office which he now holds. But Garfield is the President, and is responsible for all the acts of the administration. Conkling and the 15 or 20 chosen Senators from the great State of New York, and that, against all the opposition of the administration created by the same party that elected them. This should give them all the stronger claim to be considered in the matter of appointment in their State. When it comes to filling the most influential office in the State without consulting those Senators it becomes a great grievance. When it selects the most offensive to be found it becomes an insult, and ought to be resented to the same extent as if the President will see this and correct his mistake himself and restore harmony to the party. He owes this to himself and to those without whom he could not have been elected. Nobody believes that he could have carried the State of New York without the active support of his present Senators. Their passive support would not have answered. Without the State of New York General Garfield would not be President. His reward Robertson is not only offensive to the New York Senators, but it is offensive to the New York Republicans. The change of Baden and Cramer, the two appointments in which I felt a strong personal interest, was very distasteful to me. The first, because of my personal relations with him, and the second, because his office would support him until he finishes some work he is engaged upon, and which he could do without interfering with his public duties. The second, because it was at the expense of removing the son of my old Secretary of State, who, no man ever had his superior, certainly never for moral worth, in the Department. It is true Mr. Fish resigned, but he did this from a sense of honor, supposing it to be the duty of the representatives abroad to give a man administration an opportunity of saying whether they were wanted or not.

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THE FACTS IN THE CASE.

Which Make Some of the Ex-President's Remarks Seem Inexplicable.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—General Grant's letter to Senator Jones, published in New York to-day, has elicited the following authoritative statement regarding the circumstances attending Mr. Fish's resignation from the Department of State:

When General Grant was in Washington in March, shortly after Garfield's inauguration, he made several requests of the President, of which the latter made a written memorandum in Gen. Grant's presence.

The request in regard to Mr. Cramer was that he might be transferred from Denmark to a more southerly climate. General Grant specified that he did not ask a higher grade, only a milder climate.

The resignation of Mr. Fish was requested, and the same grade as Denmark, opened the way for complying with Gen. Grant's request, and the President promptly complied with General Grant's request with personally expressed approval.

Mr. Fish was then to be transferred from the Department of State to the Department of the Interior, showing the following facts:

On the 13th of February last, Nicholas Fish, Charge d'Affaires at Berlin, addressed a letter to Mr. E. A. Everts, Secretary of State, the following:

"I enclose herewith a dispatch tendering my resignation. I feel that I can no longer retain my position here with justice to myself and the country. I have accepted of the offer of the President to transfer me to the Department of the Interior, and I am now on my way to Washington to see the President and to see that my resignation is properly recorded in the Department of State."

On March 7th, in a communication addressed to Mr. Fish, the President said as follows: "On the 13th ult. I addressed your eminent predecessor in office a dispatch marked 'separate,' which I enclosed in a private letter to Mr. Everts. My reasons for so enclosing it were solely to protect the Department from possible disclosure of its contents which might impose on the Department. I have the honor now to enclose herewith a copy of the same, and I now, for the first time, place the same on file."

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INSURANCE MEN

From all Parts of the Country in Conference in New York.

New York, May 19.—The fifteenth annual meeting of the National Board of Fire Underwriters was held this morning.

President M. Bennett, Jr., in the chair. In his opening address he said that during the year thirteen subscriptions had been received towards abating incendiary and arson.

These subscriptions amount to \$17,000, making the total subscriptions 118; and the fund amounts to \$141,166. During the year eight rewards, aggregating \$1,800, have been paid, and the conditions number fourteen.

Since 1873 there has been 108 convictions secured. He also stated that 151 bills and amendments relating to insurance had been introduced into the Legislatures of thirty-one States and territories.

The main event of the year was the organization of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, under the auspices of the Executive Committee of the United Fire Insurance Company, in America, having for its object the question of rates and commissions, and many other matters of common interest.

It has also been active in its efforts to suppress incendiarism. He completed the receipt of the companies for the year amounted to only 2 1/10 per cent over the total assets involved, and that during the first quarter of the present year the losses were 10 per cent larger than for the same period last year.

Since April, 1880, the Commercial and Mobile Fire companies have gone out of the Northern of Waterbury, and the Trade's of Chicago, have given notice of their proposed withdrawal from the National Board. The equilibrium of the Board, however, has been preserved, at least as far as capital is concerned, by the accession to its ranks of the Scottish Union and National Fire Insurance Company, of Edinburgh, and the Lion Fire Insurance Company of London.

Thirty-one companies retired from business during the year, while four more have withdrawn wholly or in part from the agency business.

The Hope and Sterling Companies, of New York, have consolidated.

Eighteen companies have increased their capital.

The Rochester Company, of Pennsylvania, has failed.

The report of the Committee on Statistics showed that two hundred and seventy-two companies received a total of \$1,358,439 in fire, and \$8,043,556 in marine and inland premiums in '80. Increase over the previous year, \$10,912,943. Losses in the same year, \$33,618,038. Through fire, inland and marine the losses amounted to \$7,734,029. Through marine, \$1,233,211. Through fire, \$6,500,818. Expenses, \$24,203,211. Profits of business, \$7,521,423, out of which \$1,940,328 were earned by foreign companies.

St. Petersburg, May 19.—A woman recently arrested has been identified as the companion of Jellicoff, the chief director of the plot for the assassination of the late Czar. A secret press containing arms and explosives was found at her residence.

The Porikiad police on Tuesday surprised a secret meeting outside the city, and arrested all present.

The rumor current some months ago that St. Petersburg was undermined in several places is now being in a measure confirmed by other circumstances besides the mine in Sadovaya street and the bags of dynamite at Gatchina, and as he had the police are now dragging Krukov canal.

During the seeking of Podvalnaka on the Russian frontier, several peasants were killed by the falling rafters. Four grain warehouses and nearly all the buildings along the railway station were burned. At all the stations along the southwestern railway the houses were plundered and burned.

The Austrian frontier towns are crowded with fugitives. At Odessa the plundering continued the entire day. Rich Jews have fled and the poor ones are in a pitiable condition. At Kief the synagogue was broken open and the congregation grossly maltreated. The Jewish quarter of the town looks as if it had been sacked by Tartars.

The overflow of the river Dvina at Archangel has destroyed many houses and is believed great loss of life is involved.

Kansas Railroad Assessment.

TOPEKA, May 19.—Auditor Bonbrake, Secretary of the State Board of Railroad Assessors, has just completed the work of apportioning and distributing the assessment of railroads for 1881. This work includes the distribution of all railroad property to the several counties, townships and cities. The State has at this time the largest number of miles of railroads in the Union. The total railroad mileage of the State is 3,478 miles, at an aggregate assessed value of about \$22,671,999; an average value per mile of \$6,518. There were built in the State between March 1, 1880, and March 1, 1881, 100 miles and seventy-four miles. The increase in mileage exceeds twelve per cent, while the increase in taxable valuations reaches ten and a half per cent. The valuation of railroad property is a little over one eighth of the total taxable valuation of the State.

St. Louis, May 19.—A Jefferson City special says, G. F. Moore, from Xenia, O., a brakeman on the Missouri Pacific railroad, was run over and killed about 2 o'clock this morning at Osage City.

The mutilated remains of an unknown man were found yesterday at Lakewood on the Hannibal & St. Joe railroad. It is supposed the man was drunk and fell into a cattle guard and was run over by two or three trains. The body was cut into small pieces, the largest fragment found being part of a leg.

Final Proceedings in the Philip Case.

New York, May 19.—On the indictment found against Kenneth Philip, Chas. A. Byrne, Louis F. Kent and John Hart, a brakeman on the Missouri Pacific railroad, was run over and killed about 2 o'clock this morning at Osage City.

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St. Louis, Mo., May 19.—Two teamsters named John O'Brien and Mose Williams, the latter colored, got into a difficulty last Monday at the Wabash freight depot, at the foot of Bidlee street, in which O'Brien fractured Williams' skull with a wagon spoke. Williams died yesterday, and O'Brien was arrested to-day and jailed.

Cutlery Accident.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., May 19.—There was a cave-in at the Pittsburg Coal Company's shaft this afternoon. The damage is thought to be heavy. The citizens living in the vicinity were greatly excited by the shock.

THE NEW CHIEF

OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IN THE EMPIRE STATE.

Conkling Deposed from His Front Position and the Spider Put into the Hand of Robertson—Prominent Papers and Partisans Tendering Him Their Allegiance.

New York, May 19.—The *Express* (Tammany) Albany dispatch says: Conkling is politically dead and Robertson, since his confirmation, has been entrusted with the command of the party. His substitution has been endorsed by a large majority of the Republican State Senators and Assemblymen, as well as by the leading members of the party in various sections of the State, who have sent close on to 2,000 telegrams of congratulatory messages to the new chief.

The *Telegraph* also says a dispatch has been received from Albany setting forth that Judge Robertson declared positively that he would not take possession of the office of Collector until Conkling and Platt were removed.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Senator Conkling is trying to arrange his business affairs so that he can go to New York on Saturday. He